

Protecting a Volcano

Next Generation Science Standards:

- 5-ESS3-1 Obtain and combine information about ways individual communities use science to protect the Earth’s resources and environment.

Description: This activity is a chance for the students to reflect on their field trip to Haleakalā National Park. Make connections between the geology of Hawai’i and the historical preservation of the park. Think back to the mission of the National Park Service.

Duration: 30 minutes

Objectives: At the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

- Determine how Haleakalā National Park protects natural, cultural, and geologic resources and how the students can help protect them too.

Background:

Haleakalā National Park was created in 1916 to help protect and preserve the unique natural and cultural resources of our islands. The mission statement of the National Park service states: “The National Park Service preserves the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.”

Vocabulary:

Preserve: To make something last a long time.

Protect: To keep safe from harm.

Materials Needed:

Writing Journal

Procedure:

Step 1: Reflection of experiences on field trip

What was your favorite part of the field trip to Haleakalā National Park?

Why are the geologic resources of Haleakalā important to the people of Hawai’i?

What does the park do to protect them?

Step 2: If I were a Ranger....

Pretend that you are the newest Superintendent at Haleakalā National Park. How will you protect and preserve the geologic and historical features of the park? Write a short essay explaining what you would do and why.